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Letter dated 4 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to draw your attention to the statement issued on 4 October 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union on Somalia (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Ellen Margrethe **Løj**
Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations

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Annex to the letter dated 4 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English and French]

Statement on Somalia issued on 4 October 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union unequivocally supports the peace and reconciliation process for Somalia, sponsored by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), in line with the European Union Council conclusions of 22 July 2002. There is an urgent need to resolve the crisis and stop the violence. The IGAD-sponsored peace and reconciliation process due to begin on 15 October in Eldoret, Kenya, is the one forum where all involved parties can work together to establish a platform for peace and reconciliation. Because of the wide regional and international support that it enjoys, the Eldoret conference is a crucial opportunity to resolve the conflict in Somalia and to put an end to the untold sufferings of the Somali people. The European Union appeals to all Somali parties not to miss the opportunity.

The European Union recognizes the crucial role played by the IGAD Technical Committee, comprised of the three frontline States, Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti, and headed by Ambassador Mwangale of Kenya, in laying the foundations for the IGAD-sponsored peace and reconciliation process. Their work in seeking the backing of all parties in accordance with the framework established by IGAD is vital for the prospects of success. It is important that this backing behind a single framework is firmly maintained throughout the process.

The European Union appeals to all parties to actively support the IGAD-sponsored peace and reconciliation process, to work constructively to make it work and to strive to overcome all obstacles that present themselves along the way. The important thing is that the conference in Eldoret becomes a firm first step in a peace and reconciliation process that aims at progressively building consensus among the parties.

The European Union is ready to support the process in any way possible and appropriate. The European Union also reiterates its willingness to give full support for the implementation of a possible peace and reconciliation agreement.

The Central and Eastern European countries associated with the European Union, the associated countries Cyprus, Malta and Turkey, and the European Free Trade Association countries, members of the European Economic Area, align themselves with the present statement.